

1220 N Street, A-170  
Sacramento, California 95814  
(916) 653-4078

June 17, 2003

To: **CERTIFIED INDUSTRY SUPERVISORS AND CERTIFIED LABS  
TESTING FOR BETA LACTAM DRUGS, AND MILK HANDLERS**

Subject: **COLLECTION, RETENTION AND NOTIFICATION OF MILK AND DAIRY  
FOODS CONTROL BRANCH/APPROVED MILK INSPECTION  
SERVICES**

To establish quantified amounts of Beta Lactam drugs in raw milk, it is necessary to utilize more sophisticated analysis than is provided by the test kits used for antibiotic screening. To allow the state to pursue regulatory action against producers with repeat incidents of contamination, the following procedures are to be followed.

- 1) Tank truck samples that confirm positive for Beta Lactams and sample(s) of the violative producer(s) are to be immediately frozen.
- 2) The Certified Industry Supervisor (CIS) must notify the Milk and Dairy Foods Control (MDFC) Branch Regional Office with the incident information.
- 3) MDFC or an Approved Milk Inspection Service (AMIS) will contact the CIS to either confirm that the samples will be picked up by a representative of the state for further analysis or are not needed and can be disposed of.

Samples from producers with repeat incidents will be tested at UC Davis by HPLC to determine accurate Beta Lactam concentrations.

Sincerely,

William J. Bordessa, Chief  
Milk and Dairy Foods Control Branch  
Animal Health and Food Safety Services

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